

AOTEAROA YOUTH NETWORK

DON'T DAM



NGAKAWAU

No. 2 JULY 1993

## **THE NGAKAWAU QUESTION**

As a result of the Government's moves towards privatisation and their lack of planning for energy conservation and efficiency, a series of proposals for new power stations have been put forward. The two most significant of these are the gas fired power station proposed for Stratford in Taranaki and the proposed Ngakawau dam.

Electricorp, who are the proposers of the Stratford power station, are operating on the assumption that every year New Zealand's electricity consumption will increase by 3%. Rather than planning to curtail this through conservation and efficiency they are attempting to boost sales and build more power stations. The consumer will end up paying for these new stations through higher power bills. An idea of Electricorp's attitude can be gained from an incident during last winter's electricity crisis, when Electricorp's current Chief Executive, David Frow, wrote to the Minister for State Owned Enterprises complaining that the high level of savings was cutting into Electricorp's profits.

The Stratford power station would cost an estimated \$400 million and produce 400 megawatts (MW) of power. It is described as "energy efficient" by Electricorp, with only 55% of the gases' energy wasted in the production of electricity. The station will put out enough pollutants to increase New Zealand's contribution to world greenhouse gases by 6%, adding 1.5 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> to the atmosphere. This scheme is currently at the stage of environmental impact assessment, with Electricorp hoping to apply for a permit to pollute (under the Resource Management Act) by September of this year.

Electricorp's failure to institute any policies of electricity conservation has left local Electricity Supply Associations (ESAs) in a situation where they are forced to buy as much power as possible off Electricorp. Many ESAs see that a way to deal with this is to build their own power stations. These are supposed to supply the local area, with any excess power being sold to the national grid.

The largest of all such schemes is the Ngakawau Dam project, put forward by Hydro Power Ltd., the Westport ESA, and Downer and Co., a construction company involved in the Clyde Dam. They plan to build a 700 MW dam (Clyde is 432 MW) at a cost of \$1.4 billion in the Ngakawau Gorge, north of Westport. The projected cost does not allow for overruns such as those seen during the Clyde dam project.

The proposed dam would be an environmental disaster. The Ngakawau basin was approved as an ecological area worthy of reserve status in the 1986 Forest Accord. It is an area of terraced alluvial podocarp-beech forest, including tawhai or silver beech, yellow silver pine, kahikatea and rimu. It is rich in bird life, including kiwi, kaka, whio (blue duck) and matata (fernbird). Several plant species are found only in this area as are two subspecies of native powelliaphanta (land snail).

This forest, having escaped logging, is now under threat of drowning. 2500 hectares, an area about the size of Dunedin, will be submerged. The beautiful Mangatina falls will also disappear. In addition the plan makes provision for 150 km of tunnels drawing water from 23 surrounding rivers including the Buller, the Wangapeka and the Matiri. It is unknown what effect this will have on these rivers of what will be done with the huge quantities of tailings produced by the tunnelling.

The proposed dam is in one of the most earthquake prone parts of New Zealand, not far from the epicentres of the 1929 Murchison and 1968 Inangahua earthquakes. Six sizeable faultlines run through the dam and tunnelling sites. The Ngakawau gorge is only 60km north-west of the massive alpine faultline. It should also be noted that the impact of a huge body of water behind a dam may actually increase earthquake activity. At Lake Benmore seismic activity increased sixfold after the filling of the lake.

So far the Ngakawau dam is not beyond the proposal stage. Downer and Co. have met with the Minister of Conservation and tried to get him to agree not to use the veto which he has over any project on DOC land. The proposal has yet

to go through the procedures of the Resource Managements Act.

Both the Stratford and Ngakawau schemes will, in the long run, generate unemployment. Once built, the Stratford Station will employ an estimated 20 people at \$20 million a job.. The Ngakawau dam will employ about 10 at \$140 million a job. Both schemes will of course employ large construction teams, with about 500 being needed to build the Ngakawau dam. Such work is, however, temporary. Once the projects are finished, workers either leave, bringing about a collapse in the artificially inflated local economy, or remain in the area, unemployed. Many of these short term jobs will probably go to skilled, experienced workers from outside the local area.

The answer to the problems of employment and energy supply in New Zealand is to introduce a comprehensive energy conservation and efficiency program. During last years electricity crisis 25% of normal electricity use was saved by simple 'switch off' measures. An Electricorp report in 1989 estimated that using the technology now available, New Zealand could save just over 50% of the electricity currently used.

On a domestic level, old homes could be insulated and new ones built to be energy efficient. Energy efficient light bulbs could be installed and hot water cylinders insulated. Co-generation could be introduced in many industries. This is the process where waste heat is used to generate electricity. In the longer term, there is great potential in New Zealand for the development of wind power, solar water heating and the production of fuel from biomass.

The introduction of such a comprehensive energy program would create far more jobs than the building of more power stations. A study by the Institute of Economic Research in 1988 estimated that by insulating just 7% of the uninsulated

houses in New Zealand, 600 permanent jobs would be created. Development of new, more efficient wind power technology would have strong export potential. In addition, through these developments, ordinary people could spend less money on power bills, allowing them to spend more on other things, thus generating more employment.

New Zealand has the potential to become self sufficient in energy and to create employment through this. To bring this about we must prevent the privatisation of the electricity sector and the building of schemes such as Ngakawau and Stratford.

We must push for a comprehensive program of energy conservation. I urge readers to write to Jim Bolger and the Minister of Energy to push for these things. While you're at it, write to the Minister of Conservation and ask him to veto the Ngakawau dam. They're all at Parliament Buildings, Wellington, and the postage is free.

*Pete Clayworth.*



*From a letter to AYN from  
NORML:*

Christchurch NORML is involved with the youth of our city on a street level, informing young people of their civil rights in relation to police harassment, with the eventual aim being education of both factions as to socially and legally acceptable behaviour, with our ultimate goal being the reform of legislation enforcing the prohibition of marijuana.

We do not believe that youth should be labelled as criminals in the same league of violent offenders simply because they prefer to smoke a recreational drug which does not contribute to societies ills or drug-related deaths except those due to its current prohibited status.

We are interested in sharing information through your network, and informing our members of issues of local or national importance which they might otherwise have been unaware of if it were not for your information sharing-network.

To this end we would like to extend a warm invitation to any interested parties to become involved in Christchurch NORML activities, these including:

1. District Court support - distributing civil rights information outside the court every weekday morning,
2. Concerts,
3. Lecturing, touring, running workshops.

**STUDENTS AND DEMOCRACY IN ASIA.**

The pictures are not forgotten. Thousands of Students (actively supported by the population) had demonstrated in the "Palace of Heavenly Peace" in Peking for political reforms and gone on hunger strike. Hundreds of thousands of people joined the democratic movement. At times, almost one million people are said to have been gathering at the Palace. On the fourth of July however, the hopes for more democracy in China were put to a sudden end: soldiers forced their way into the city with hundreds of tanks, shot at random into the crowd, and brutally ended the peaceful protest.

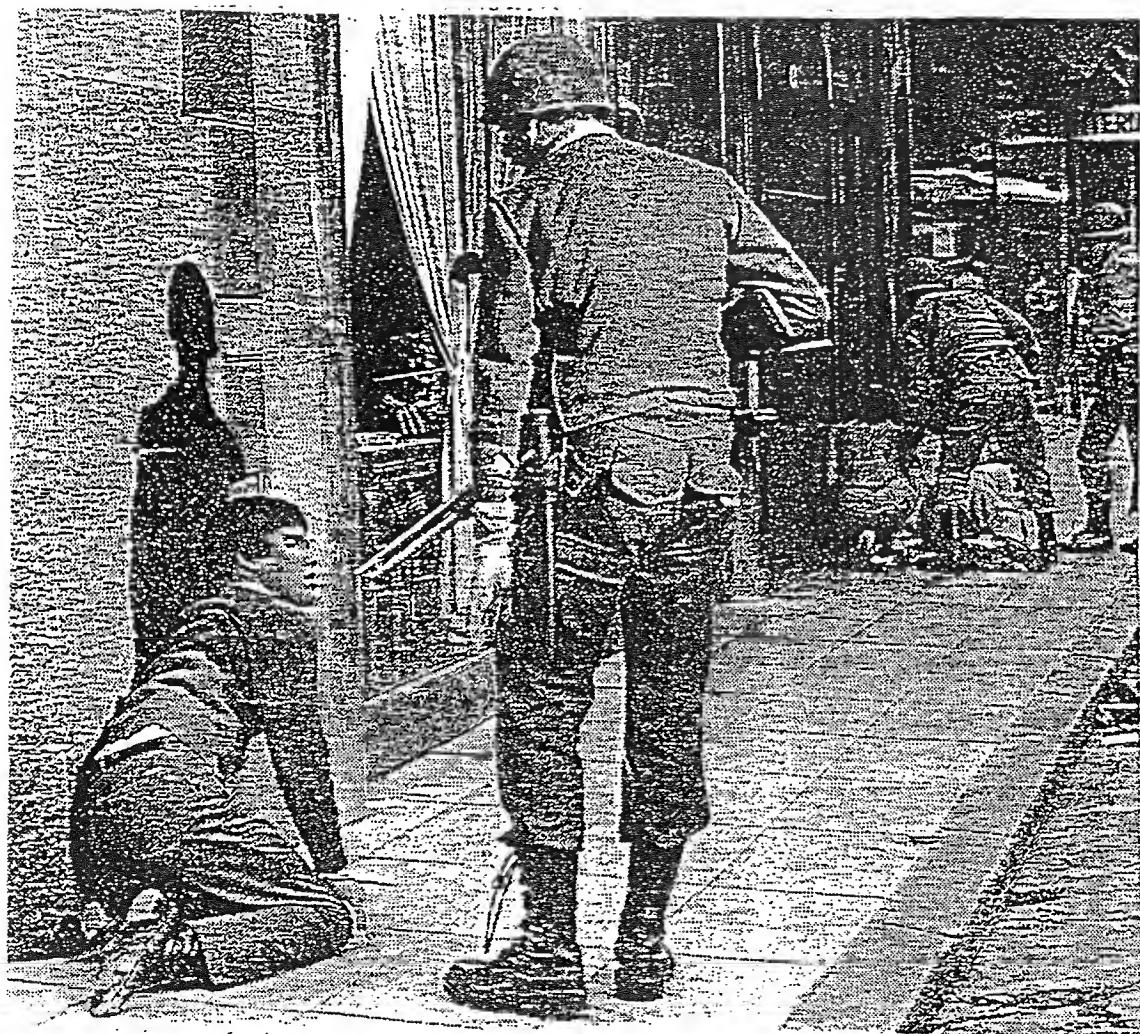
At least 1000 died. Many more were injured and uncountable arrests made - these were the dreadful consequences of the Peking massacre. During the following weeks, arrests and government ordered murders took place all over the country. According to unofficial estimations, more than 30,000 people have been arrested, many being illegally executed, or sentenced to death or lifelong imprisonment in unfair trials.

Today, three and a half years after the violent end of the democratic movement, people are still in jail - without a charge or a trial. In others have been released but are still suffering

from reduction of their civil rights many Asian countries, it is the students form the heart of the



AYN members protest open day at Southland Frigate



democratic movements and therefore get into the gunsights of the rulers. As well as for China in 1989, this is true for Burma, East Timor, South Korea or Thailand. The political orientation is of no relevance: left-wing rulers in China suppress student protests as rigorously as the western-orientated rulers in South Korea or Indonesia.

In 1988 student unrest took place in Burma, and ended with a bloody military putsch and the closing of the Universities. Although the protest was suppressed, the students have not ceased to protest against the regime. The Students Association ABFSU was formed in 1988 and repeatedly fell victim to the repressive measures of the Burmese military apparatus. The ABFSU leader Paw U Tun and the general secretary Aung Din were arrested in 1989 and by special law were confined to 20 years imprisonment. The ABFSU split off DPNS is no better off. The human rights organisation Amnesty International has

documented 200 cases of DPNS members who have been arrested since September 1988; the real number is probably much higher. On the 19th of October 1991, all seven members of the board were arrested and cross-examined for two weeks. Two of them fled to Thailand after their release, while four others are said to have been arrested again. In December 1991, at least 900 students of the Rangoon and Mandalay Universities were arrested during the granting of the Nobel peace prize to Burmese opposition leader Aung Son Suu Kyi, while singing songs demanding her release.

"The speeches and the singing lasted until about half past three. At this time the soldiers had surrounded the campus and aimed their guns at us. All gates were being closed. We asked the teachers for help and protection, and many of them were angry about the military. Some of them said that they should better be killed and the students set free." - one student describing the fearful hours.

The soldiers opened the gates for a short time and let a few students out. Panic broke out among the students, more than 100 finally being arrested. Some of them were confined to imprisonment, the degree of punishment differing between six and twenty years. The Universities that had been reopened only a few months before were closed again.

In Indonesia, students of the island East Timor are an important part of the independence movement. Until 1975 East Timor had been a Portuguese colony. When the Southern Europeans gave up the country after the "pink revolution", Indonesian troops invaded the territory, which is against international law. The population of East Timor is suffering: since 1975 hundreds of thousands of people have died. In November 1991, 100 people were killed in a cemetery in the capital Dili when Indonesian military fired without warning into a peaceful funeral procession. During the demonstration students had unrolled banners demanding an independent East Timor.

In Indonesia, students can even be arrested because of the possession or propagation of prohibited political writings. At least seven such peaceful prisoners have been sent to prison charged with "subversion". As Bambang Isti Nugruho possessed forbidden Marxist-Leninist writings and organised discussion groups, he had been sentenced to eight years in prison. Bonan Tigor Naispospos, a student of political science, even got eight and a half years. He has spread prohibited Marxist literature too, including the work of the famous Indonesian author Pramoedya Ananta Toer, who, due to political reasons, had been in jail from 1965 to 1979 himself.

In South Korea, it is enough to have contacts with communist North Korea or proclaim political sympathies for the neighbour state, to be sent to prison. A special law makes it possible that almost every odious thought can be prosecuted under criminal law. Besides active trade-unionists, the victims of repression are mostly students. The "National Security Law" makes way for arbitrary arrests.

The democratically elected government under

president Roh Tae Woo, which followed a long standing dictatorship, does not change this very much. "There is a striking difference concerning the situation under the dictatorship. Formerly, students and workers were arrested in large numbers. today, excluding events like strikes, often the spokesmen are particularly chosen and arrested. The arrests of lots of students were always followed by new protests. Now the publicity isn't that strong any more", explains the South Korean lawyer and human rights activist Won Soo Park. He emphasises that arbitrary arrests and torture are still the order of the day. Especially contacts to North Korea are punished as before - although at the same time there are official talks with the North Korean government. Four years after the return to democracy, Park's sum total is disillusioning: "Since the end of the dictatorship, the human rights situation has not improved."

Harald Gesterkamp, Amnesty International

The reality of democracy in the newly industrialising countries tends to be very different from what governments proclaim. It is these countries in Asia, and many others whose human rights records are just as bad, that our Government wants us to trade with. We may benefit from Asia 2000 and increased trade - but how will it help the students of those countries? How will it help to bring real democracy to Asia?

# *DUNEDIN WOMEN AGAINST PORNOGRAPHY*

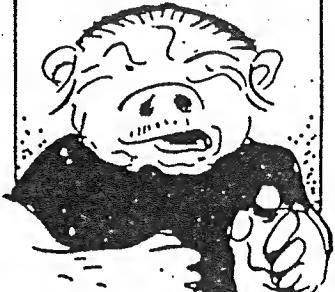
Many women in Dunedin came together during Pornography Awareness Week to listen to Janine Mussen speak on where women stand in society, particularly focusing on pornography and sexist advertising. While they were there, those women discovered the need for a women's organisation that would focus on the wider issues in society that condoned pornography and violence against women.

YOU KNOW THESE WOMEN THAT WANT TO BAN PORNGRAPHY...

WHO THE HELL ARE THEY TO TELL ME WHAT I CAN WATCH

IT'S A FREE COUNTRY, AND IF THEY DON'T LIKE IT....

THEY CAN ALWAYS CLOSE THEIR EYES



The organisation, Women Against Pornography, influenced by other organisations of this nature in Wellington and Christchurch, was set up after another talk: Pornography: The Reality, given by Jennifer Margaret. This talk involved a slide show portraying both negative and positive images of women. Fiona Clayton expressed her feelings of extreme grief while viewing images of women in snuff movies, involved as victims in gang rape and the use of children as sex objects. These images really portrayed messages that women were, and are, available for sex anytime, anywhere, anyhow, and implied that women enjoyed pain, terrible enough to kill them. Next, Jennifer set up some real images of women- women as any shape or size, partaking in a wide range of activities, that the group of women watching could easily identify with.

The fact that this sharing of women's pain was attended by women only was met with many criticisms. However there are many good reasons for this. These women wanted to set up a environment that was a safe place for women to express their grief together with a focus on women rather than feeling they needed to appease the guilt of men who may go on the defensive, bringing the focus onto themselves rather than leaving it with women. WAP is a women's organisation set up for women to help other women. If men would like to seek solutions to these issues then it is up to them to take their own initiatives to do something about it.

Women in Dunedin aim to set up Women Against Pornography at a community level and

are staging their first protest this Friday 16th July at the opening of the Gold Coast Strip Show. They do not take issue with the women in the show, but at those men who set this kind of pornography up as a market product by going along to watch. The main aim is to make the wider public aware of pornography as a public issue and that women don't usually have a choice about exploiting their bodies to make ends meet. Pornography needs to be looked at in its wider context, in the way society markets women as a sexual product, reducing us in the public eye to submissive creatures, living only to fulfil men's needs. Living within a patriarchal society continues to enforce these images of women even in the subtleties of the language we use to communicate with, but we must start with the most obvious images, of naked women on billboards or in strip shows. Many of our women friends have suffered from sexual or psychological abuse or from eating disorders. It is time to find a focus for our anger, and our grief, and the issues surrounding pornography is a good place to start. Women Against Pornography are just beginning in Dunedin and this may be broadened to Women Against Violence and Exploitation.

Those women involved in Womens' Groups around the country, please write and tell us what you think about issues such as pornography and how it makes you feel to live in a patriarchal society.



Cybele Locke

## *BUDGET DAY SIGNALS REVIVAL IN STUDENT MOVEMENT*

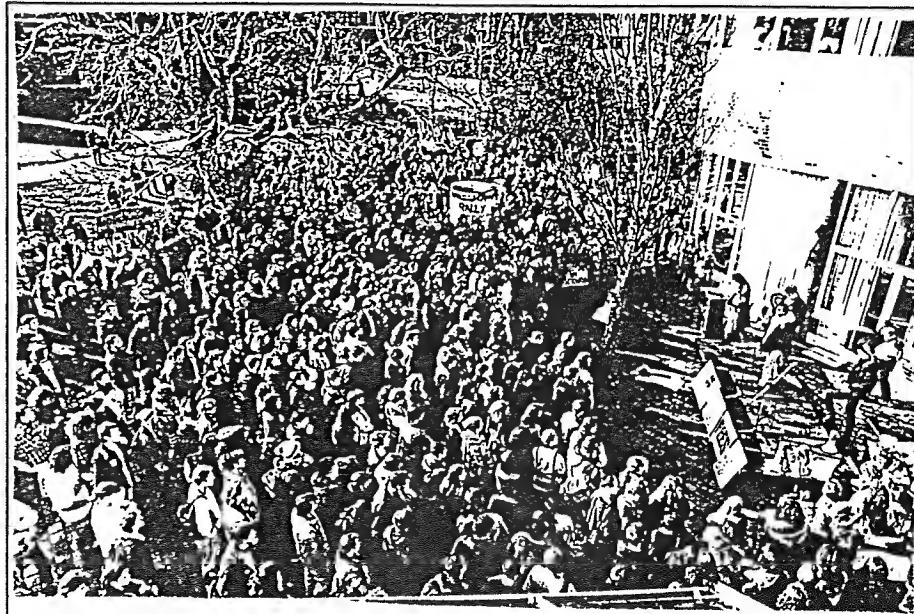


On July 1 Students in Dunedin and Auckland marched against the National Government's Budget, and showed that the Free Education Campaign isn't dead. Over the past few years the size of anti-fees mobilisations had been declining in numbers, anger and purpose. In large part this had been due to the conservative line of the New Zealand University Students Association (NZUSA), which, having turned rightward in 1986, tried to cuddle up to successive governments bent on User pays, and deliberately cut itself off from other sectors under attack from the New Right.

In the last year NZUSA has swung left again, and the campaign has picked up as a result, with Campaign organisers in several centres actively working with other sectors, and a new determination being present. In spite of the Free Education issue being "old", large numbers have turned out in Auckland (1000), Palmerston North (2000), Christchurch (2000) and Dunedin (2000)

for the marches this year. Smaller, spontaneous marches at Auckland and Wellington the day after further cuts were announced were well attended, and angry. Waikato and Lincoln also managed to stage successful activities, after a couple of years of inaction.

Students have made the effort to link up with other sectors. The efforts of the Education Action Group in Auckland are the best illustration, with Unemployed, Unions and other groups joining in the Budget Day march. And Students are more determined - on July 1, the Auckland and Dunedin marches went right to the National Party HQ's, with paint bombs being thrown up north (and 1 arrest), and thousands occupying



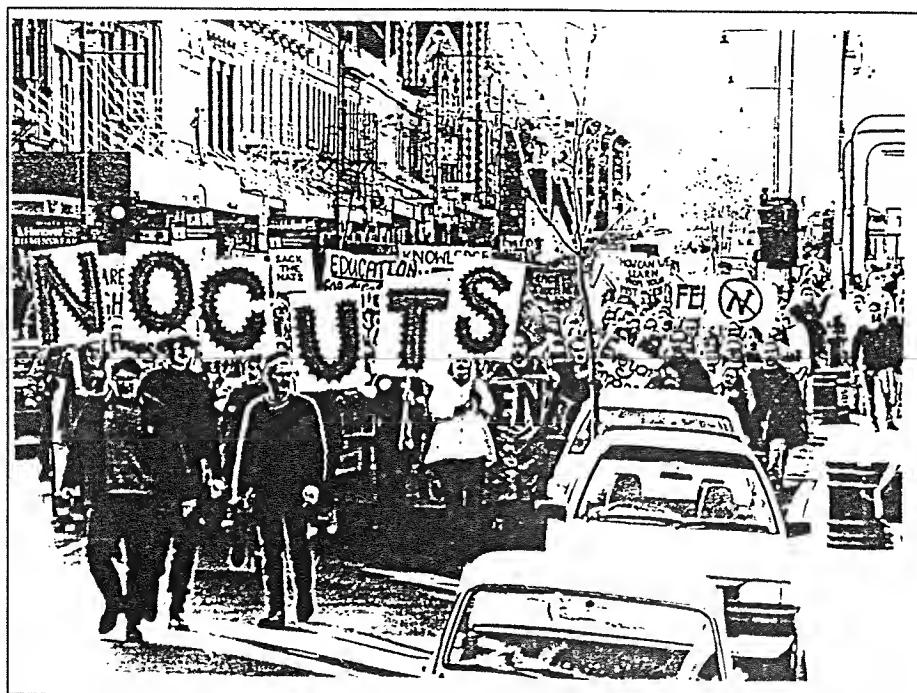


The conservatives are still powerful, especially in Auckland, where the majority of the Exec oppose the direction of the Education Action Group. NZUSA will have to continue to support other sectors and organisations, and gain their support. And the Campaign will have to get more serious, and more angry. The usual 1 march a year combined with asking the Government to be nice to us isn't enough anymore, if it ever was. Many of us may ask why bother with the Students Association, they have played a vital role in the progressive movements before, and can again. The Education Campaign must play a role in this, and must continue to fight back.

the office corridor for 20 minutes down south!

The Free Education Campaign has to be rebuilt. The activities so far this year have begun this process. There is a new feeling of optimism amongst Student Activists that we can regain Free Education, although it will take some time. A number of things will have to happen if the campaign is to keep growing, and ultimately be successful. NZUSA will have to continue to regain a progressive role.

Joss Debreceny



# Campaign for People's Sovereignty

The Campaign for People's Sovereignty is a coalition of groups who came together because of common opposition to asset sales, charges for social services, privatisation, and other attacks on ordinary people in this country.

We choose to work for a cooperative society which meets the needs of all people.

We do so by linking with like minded groups to analyse, plan, develop and support initiatives consistent with our political and social goals.

## *What we believe in*

### Sovereignty, Independence, Autonomy

For Aotearoa/New Zealand to be truly sovereign and independent, with an international policy committed to addressing inequalities between nations.

### Constitutional issues

Implementation of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Democratic, accountable and equitable distribution of power, wealth, information and resources.

### The Economy

An economic system whose prime objectives are fairness, fulfilment of human needs and sustainability, and which recognises that private profit and economic efficiency are inadequate tools towards those ends.

### Sustainability

Sustainability means adopting lifestyles and technology that do not further damage our environment and will help to reverse damage already done, that use renewable resources, that avoid exploitation of people, cultures and ecosystems, that do not put profit before environment, and that do not equate growth with progress.

### Community Values

To build a society which values cooperation and caring for each other over competition and the corporate or individualistic drive for money and power.

### Patriarchy

To rebuild a society freed from male dominance where women and men have equal access to, and power in, all personal, social and economic institutions of society.

### Employment and Work Issues

A democratic workplace which recognises trade union rights, human dignity and safety, and pay which reflects people's needs. Work is undertaken to make a contribution to society and for personal fulfilment.

### Housing, Education, Health and Welfare

Free and appropriate health care and education; decent and affordable housing, and a basic income for all as of right.

### Process

To transform society through a consensus process that creates hopefulness and activity and revitalises people. To have fun along the way.

## **A NATIONAL WOMEN'S COORDINATOR FOR NZUSA?**

NZUSA is currently facing a proposition put to it by the University Women's Information Network (UWIN) to introduce the position of a National Women's Coordinator into its national structure.

After NZUSA conferences in February and May, UWIN has come to the conclusion that women are not adequately represented within NZUSA;

study, student health) and networking between individual campuses, to create a unified a strong national women's movement.

Such a position would ensure that the needs and wants of University Women are voiced at a national level, and thus will receive the recognition that it is due.

A submission was presented by UWIN to the last meeting of the NZUSA Federation Executive (Campus Presidents plus national officers). It appears from what came out of the meeting that

NZUSA agrees in principle with the proposal, but that its implementation depends on budgetary concerns and office space logistics. UWIN does not accept these excuses. NZUSA has for a



women are suffering from a feeling of voicelessness and marginalisation within the patriarchal power structures of the organisation.

As a means of improving this situation, UWIN has put forward the idea of a National Women's Coordinator. They would be responsible for providing resources women on individual campuses, setting up national standards and procedures on issues affecting women in education (eg sexual harassment procedures, child care provisions, women in post-graduate

long time given lip-service support to increased representation of Women's Rights. In the both the 1986 and 1992 NZUSA Working Party reports it was stated that there was a need for a greater focus on empowering women. But until some concrete action is taken along the lines of UWIN's recommendations, this will be mere tokenism that will benefit no-one. A decision should be made by August, for which the UWIN members will await with baited breath.

**Dear AYN,**

What a wonderful beginning for the Aotearoa Youth Network. All the right (whoops, "left") cartoons, and all the 90's jargon of "networks" with splashes of self-criticism, and most importantly, intelligently drawn up parameters for the future of AYN (no abuse, emphasis on information and commentary; "this network is here for you in whatever way you would like to use it"). We must continue in a similar vein if AYN is to be successful.

One thing that I would personally like to encourage is writing that is constructively critical of our own organisation and practice. For example, reflective type analysis of "what went wrong on the day" or, "whether or not the power relations in our own group function in a way which best supports our aims".

These are the kinds of questions (more social ones) which any pure economicistic analysis fails to ask. I worry that we must not assume that because we want a better world, we will necessarily go about it the best way. Self-explanatory I guess!

Anyway, you have my upmost support for a great beginning. Keep inspired and keep talking!

John Hutton, Auckland.

### **AUCKLANDS RADICAL SOCIETY**

One of the initiators of the AYN was the Auckland University based activist group Radical Society. Rad. Soc. organised a big turn out to the Peace Power and Politics Conference, with a dozen students from the group travelling down. We hoped we would get in contact with student and youth activists in other cities and work out some sort of network. The enthusiasm at the PPP conference was ore than anyone had expected and the Aotearoa Youth Network which emerged looks set to build a really active youth movement in this country.

Radical Society's aims are very similar to AYN's. We have been careful to avoid pushing any narrow ideological line, but simply to promote progressive ideas amongst students on campus, to encourage students to organise and to make links with the real world of working people beyond the University.

We help organise the Students Association's demonstrations, we support actions organised by the Auckland Unemployed Workers Rights Centre, we hold weekly video screenings or talks and monthly forums and advertise these among the 100 students on our mailing list.

Since the PP and P Conference, the Radical Society has been continuing to encourage activist politics on Auckland University Campus, and having been promoting AYN as widely as we can. AYN and Radical Society members did much of the organising of the July 1st Budget Day demonstration and worked hard to give it a militant feel. One of our members, John Hutton, was arrested on the day for allegedly throwing paint-bombs at the National Party Headquarters. Our weekly forums have included a session with the Unemployed Rights Centre about their plans to stand candidates in the General Election and a screening of a video, "Shattered Dreams", on the 1951 Waterfront Dispute.

A major Radical Society activity has been the organisation of a national tour by Red Constantino, a student and peace activist from the Philippines. Red sees AYN as a great idea and has been busy in the last month promoting AYN around youth groups in Auckland, and generally helping us to get our act together. He's about to leave for other cities, so make good use of him while he's in your town.

The Radical Society has taken the initiative of organising a meeting for all in the AYN network in Auckland. This will let AYN establish itself more formally on and off Campus. The meeting in on Sunday the 1st of August at 1 pm, and will be held at the Auckland University Students Association Coffee Lounge (1st floor above the main cafe). Everyone is welcome. If you can't make the meeting, but want to be part of the AYN, contact any of the following:

Natalie or David, ph. 360-3466  
Victoria, ph. 520-2282  
John, ph. 815-1820  
Tanya, ph. 631-0445

**A RADICAL AGENDA: AFTER THE NEW RIGHT AND THE OLD LEFT.** David Donnison. London: Rivers Oram Press, 1991. pp. 215. Around \$50.

*Reviewed by Chris Harris (New Labour Party / Alliance)*

Constantly in New Zealand, as elsewhere, we have found ourselves reacting to the agenda set by the New Right. The very best of our academics have devoted their efforts to demolishing such documents as *Government Management*, and this was indeed necessary, a few years ago. Just as it had also been necessary to expose all of the weaknesses of the Old Left. But time marches on, and the challenge is now to set down, in clear terms, a more positive Red / Green agenda of our own.

This is the challenge taken up by David Donnison, Professor of Town and Regional Planning at the University of Glasgow, and undoubtably one of the theorists to whom the Alliance should be paying some attention. For Donnison is also a former Chairperson of the British supplementary Benefits Commission, as well as author of *The Government of Housing* (1967), described by *New Society* as "one of the classics of social policy". Donnison is thus able to bring a most rare combination of academic rigour, and practical experience, to the contemporary political task.

While *A Radical Agenda* first came out in 1991, it remains fresh enough to have had a two-page spread devoted to it in the British weekly *New Times* earlier this year. In fact such a work will not quickly date.

*A Radical Agenda* is written in two parts. The first consist of a surprisingly sophisticated analysis of political theory, given the plainness of Donnison's language. Indeed, the book is a classic of how we might describe even the finer differences between various schools of political thought, in terms which an ordinary person will understand.

But as we have noted, other left-wing authors have also criticised the New Right quite effectively, without then going on to offer an alternative. Either this, or in doing so they have been content to work within the political

categories defined by the liber status quo; a chapter on industry, a chapter on taxation, a chapter on social security and so on (Donnison p.95).

*A Radical Agenda* does not fall into either of these traps. Instead, Donnison goes on in the second part of the book to develop synoptic alternative from the ground up - quite literally - in chapters dealing successively with interpersonal and subjective relations, the civil agenda, and the national agenda. Donnison then deviates from this liner development to examine the housing question in a stand-alone chapter which functions as a case study. Finally, the contemporary political situation, including a number of obstacles to the implementation of the polices required, gets discussed. Not all of these obstacles are to be found on the right, or in the international sphere:

"The British Trade Unions are belatedly coming to recognise that they need help from the European Community ... but most of them have been lukewarm or hostile towards all other proposals listed: an incomes policy, generous policies for family support, and the decentralisation and democratisation of public services. Already some ominous results of these divided loyalties are to be seen. Perhaps for lack of conviction that they can put together

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### *Building our own future - A Movement of Hope.*

Building our own Future is about working towards a different future, starting and building outside the existing "official" structures and transforming them as it grows out of the shared wisdom and action of ordinary people. A major part of this project is the holding of regional Peoples Assemblies, followed by a National meeting. The assemblies are aimed at bringing together as many groups as possible, in order to make concrete plans for the development of .. alternative structures peoples sovereignty. The dates of these assemblies will be advertised in AYN newsletters.

For more information, contact B.O.O.F. at 56 Manson St., Palmerston North, or phone 06-357-0617.

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a program for national recovery that will work, the Labour leadership seems to be abandoning its commitment to get back to full employment". (p. 185)

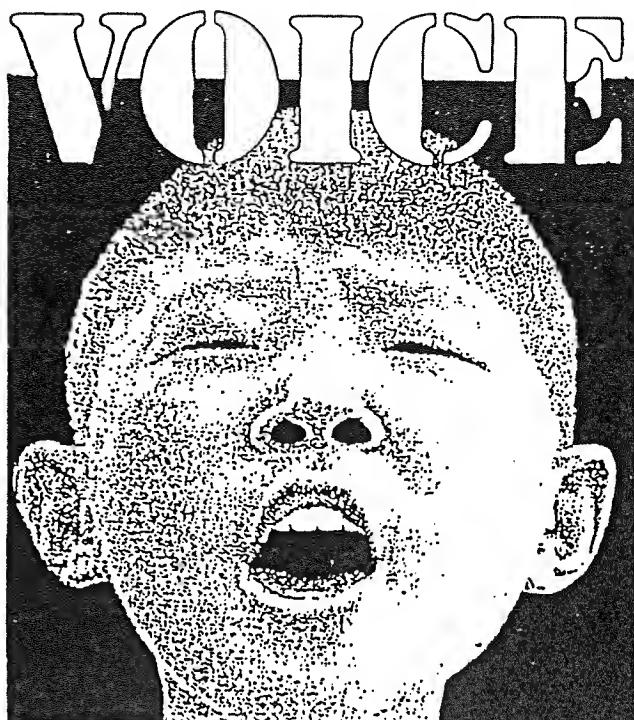
As the quote suggests, the three most distinctive features of the second part of Donnison's book are an incomes policy, a generous universal child allowance; and a municipally controlled system of public services, with a very strong emphasis on the provision of affordable housing. None of these ideas is particularly remarkable or original by itself. What is valuable in *A Radical Agenda* is the way in which the various elements of policy are reflectively combined, to produce a carefully reasoned manifesto that is all of a piece.

Donnison's treatment of the issue of full employment is carefully nuanced, if not quite explicit enough. He is perfectly well aware of the problems caused by automation. But precisely because automation has its effects in a dynamic and uneven manner, as Karl Marx noted in volume 1 of *Capital*, most vision of a 'leisure society' are simplistic: a criticism with which Donnison would probably agree, having raised all the relevant issues *passim*. The real challenge is to create meaningful work, of a more humanised and polyvalent nature, as summed up in critical technology theorist Mike Cooley's expression, 'the computer-assisted

craft worker'.

This is a point that Donnison accepts in regard to the community and service sectors, but does not seem to develop strongly enough in an industrial context, perhaps through lack of familiarity with the literature in that area. A little more on this whole issue of job design, to balance off Donnison's level of erudition, that the discourse is robust enough to tolerate few gaps. Unlike, let's say, the idealist science fiction of Andre Gorz.

Having greatly praised *A Radical Agenda*, it is necessary to offer a few words of caution. For what it is, it is very good. However, it is a popular book and for that reason it may not satisfy the critical academic's need for detail and proof. But this is deliberate editorial choice, and compensation is provided by a first-rate set of notes. All in all, I would recommend *A Radical Agenda* most strongly.



I am a witness  
to the sufferings  
of my people  
and I shall  
bear witness to  
their liberation

## **WHAT'S ON?**

- Ngakawau Dam Protest / Camp, July 27 to 29. Help stop the Ngakawau Dam. Contact Greenpeace or your local University Student Green Group for more information, or write to AYN.
- National Day of Action for Ngakawau, July 19. Contacts as above.
- July 20, Aotearoa Youth Network Forum: Foreign Investment in Aotearoa The speaker is Murray Horton from the Campaign against Foreign Control in Aotearoa. 7.30 pm at the Web Resource Centre, 111 Moray Place Dunedin.
- July 23 Radical Society Video - "The Patriot Game", a video on Nthn Ireland. Auck. Uni. Stud. Assn., Room 139, 4 pm.
- July 24 AYN fundraising dinner for Red Constantino tour. Theatre, Poetry, Dance, Band Supper. \$10. Auck. Uni. Stud. Assn. Main Cafe, 8 pm.
- July Radical Society / AYN demonstration at Peruvian consulate in Auckland, against Human Rights abuses. 199 Great North Road.
- August 1, Meeting to organise AYN in Auckland. At Auckland Uni Students Assn' Coffee Lounge. Ring Victoria 520-2282 for details.
- Aotearoa Youth Network Forums: Filipino Realities. Renato Constantino from the Philippines speaks on how the Americans lost their bases in the Philippines. Auckland - July 27 at University Old Choral Hall, 1pm. Dunedin, August 3 at Web Resource Centre, 111 Moray Pl, 7.30 pm.
- New Zealand University Students Association August Conference, August 28 to 29. Held this year at Lincoln University, all University Students are entitled to go. Write to NZUSA at PO Box 10191, Wellington for details.
- Every weekday morning, NORML distributes civil rights information outside the Christchurch District Court. Help is always needed!

### ***The Newsletter***

We want to put in anything that you can write - news, articles, poetry, letters, anything. Please, please write so that we can make this newsletter better, and so that we can get stuff from around the country. We will try to put in everything, without cutting it, but please note that :

We won't print anything that is overtly racist, sexist, homophobic or offensive to any group, and we won't put in personal abuse. If you want to debate issues that may offend people, try and be very clear about what you are trying to do, and why.

Write to AYN at: C/- The Web Resource Centre, 111 Moray Place Dunedin. Or else ring Joss Debreceny at 03-4777-571.

The name of this newsletter is also an issue that shouldn't just be decided by us who are putting together its format. Please send us your inspirations on an appropriate name for this network. Use the voice you have to dismantle the silence around us. Let the people have a voice- this newsletter is your medium. Write and tell us what makes you most angry about the environment you live in, the way society dictates what you should be. Do you have an alternative vision for your own future?

**THAT'S THE THIRD  
JOB THAT'S DISAPPEARED  
WHILE I WAS BEING  
RETRAINED FOR IT.**



*Rise up people ,  
With all your soul.  
No turning back,  
No work for dole!*

*Do you feel the face of sorrow,  
Will you dream a new tomorrow.  
We're not scum to be destroyed,  
We are the family of unemployed!*

*Rise up people ,  
With all your soul!  
No turning back,  
No work for dole!*

*Do you recall the thirties?  
Do you hear the cries of old?  
Was the struggle all for nothing,  
Or will we just do what we're told?*

*Today we face the future,  
Young and old march hand in hand.  
Let the spirit of our movement,  
Unite the people of this land!*